GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:111
ANSWERED ON:18.02.2003
WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME UNDER SINGLE ROOF
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Watershed Development Programmes are currently scattered among the Ministries of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment and Forests;

(b) if so, whether there is duplicacy of works.in regard to these programmes;

(c) whether the Government propose to put all the Watershed Development Programmes under single roof;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the strategy chalked out in this regard and proper utilization of funds for these programmes; and

(e) the time by which this task is likely to be completed?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL}:

(a) to (e) Yes Sir. At present, programmes relating to soil conservation and watershed development are scattered in different Ministries and Departments in the Central Governmentwith different Guidelines and varying financial patterns. In order to consolidate the funding arrangements at Central Level and to provide effective Coordination of scientific inputs andadministrative machinery backed by a common approach to avoid overlapping/duplication in implementation of programmes at the State and field level, a proposal is under consideration to set up a National Mission for Land and Watershed Development in the Department of Land Resources and to transfer watershed and soil conservation related activities from different Ministries to the Department of Land Resources in the Ministry of Rural Development.